

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 9 are pending in this application following this amendment and should be condition for allowance upon reconsideration and further examination.

Please reconsider the restriction requirement. Examining all the claims in this application will not unduly burden the Examiner, therefore, it is an abuse of discretion and arbitrary and capricious behavior to impose restriction. Besides, in the parent application from which the present application stems, the USPTO required the claims of this application to be separated, so restriction is inappropriate here.

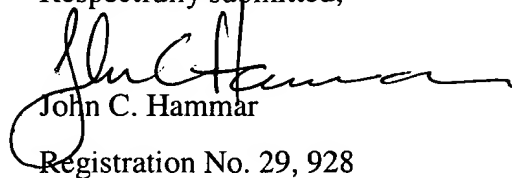
Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, and 4 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US 6,040,563 (*Matsen*). The Examiner asserts that *Matsen* discloses a method for superplastically making an adhesively bonded multisheet sandwich panel comprising: assembling a plurality of metal sheets having a high temperature adhesive affixed to one or more sheet at selected locations corresponding to the location of adhesive bonds in the finished part (Col. 5, lines 34-37 & Fig. 5); loading the stack into a press (Col. 9, lines 17-27); heating the pack to the superplastic forming range without destroying the adhesive (Col. 5, lines 34-37); superplastically forming the pack to define a selected core geometry for the finished part and to define the adhesive bonds while concurrently flowing the adhesive (Col. 7, lines 65+); cooling the formed pack below the superplastic range to a temperature where the adhesive sets to complete the finished part (Col. 9, lines 62+); and removing the cooled finished part from the press (Col. 10, lines 1-5). The Examiner misinterprets what an “adhesive bond” is. The amended claims clarify the scope of the original claims by adding “polymer film” to the definition of the adhesive. *Matsen* neither teaches nor suggests a polymer film adhesive. New claims 8 and 9 specify the uniquely low processing temperature used for forming in the preferred method of the present invention.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claim 6 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Matsen* in view of Applicant’s admitted prior art (AAPA). Applicant’s own application cannot properly be used as a reference against Applicant’s own invention. The Examiner needs to cite a reference that qualifies under 103. *Matsen* discloses polymers, but does not disclose polymer film adhesives and does not disclose the method steps that Applicant claims. *Matsen* can form or cure a polymer composite part in his induction heating system. He

does not teach places a polymer film adhesive between sheets to be expended into a product configuration using SPF where the polymer film adhesive will adhesively bond the expanded sheets together.

Please reconsider the rejections.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Hammar", is written over the printed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "H".

John C. Hammar

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